

**Impact of Import of Edible Oils on Prices**

3704. SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the import of edible oil has lowered the prices thereof;

(b) if so, the extent to which import thereof has reduced the prices; and

(c) the reasons for the high prices of edible oils?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) to (c) Import of edible oil increases availability of the commodity in the country and hence, has its impact on prices in the open market. The extent of the impact largely depends on the quantity of imported edible oil released for distribution. Since import of edible oil has been suspended with effect from April, 1991 on account of severe foreign exchange constraints, prices of edible oil is at present being ruled by the availability of indigenous edible oils in the country.

**Distribution of Foodgrains in Packs**

3705. SHRI E. AHAMED: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to supply the foodgrains through the Fair Price Shops in packs with details of weight and price; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The Central Government makes bulk allocation of foodgrains to State Governments/UT Administrations, which arrange for its distribution to the consumers in the country.

**Upward revision of margin of Essential Commodities for Karnataka**

3706. SHRI S. B. SIDNAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Karnataka has been repeatedly requesting for the upward revision of the margin for the supply of essential commodities to the State through Public Distribution System;

(b) if so, the margin for the supply of essential commodities;

(c) whether the Government have acceded to the request of the Karnataka Government; and

(d) if so, by what time a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) to (d) A request for enhancing the transport charges for carrying levy Sugar has been received from Karnataka Government and is under consideration.

**Computer Training Centres**

3707. SHRI V. N. SHARMA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the particulars of computer training centres functioning in the country in various States;

(b) whether there is any proposal to set up more such computer training centres in the country; if so, the details in regard along with their proposed locations; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to give a boost to the computer industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PEN-

SIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) The number of institutions supported by the Department of Electronics in various states for imparting computer education and training at various levels, are as follows:—

<i>Programme</i>	<i>No. of Institutions</i>
1. Master of Technology (M. Tech.) . . . . .	9
2. Bachelor of Technology (B.Tech.) . . . . .	25
3. Master in Computer Application (MCA) . . . . .	70
4. Post Graduate Diploma in Computer Application (PGDCA) . . . . .	63
5. Post Polytechnic Diploma in Computer Application (PPDCA) . . . . .	49
6. PG DCA (Hindi) . . . . .	9
7. Diploma in Computer Engineering (DCE) . . . . .	16
8. Industrial Training Institute (ITI) (Certificate) . . . . .	35
9. M. Tech. Cross Migration Programme . . . . .	10
10. MCA Teachers Training Programme . . . . .	9
11. DCA Teachers Training Programme . . . . .	12

(b) The facilities for conducting M. Tech./MCA programmes are likely to be extended to more institutions.

(c) The specific steps taken by the Government to give a boost to the computer industry are as follows:—

- (i) Industrial licensing including foreign collaboration approval has been made automatic;
- (ii) Foreign equity participation up to 51% in the large scale sector units has been made automatic;
- (iii) Equity participation up to 24% in the small scale sector has been allowed;

(iv) There is no locational restrictions on computer manufacturers;

(v) To optimise the production level and achieve economics of scale as per the international levels, the units would be allowed substantial expansion; and

(vi) The minimum percentage of value addition in case of computer hardware items has been reduced to 15% to boost exports to hard currency areas.

#### **Sufficient Production of Sugar to eliminate the Possibility of Import**

3708. SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH MALIK: Will the MINISTER OF FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have urged the sugar mills to work overtime to ensure sufficient production to eliminate the possibility of imports;

(b) if so, the reaction of industry thereon and incentives offered by the Union Government and State Governments; and

(c) the proposals in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) to (c) Union Government had announced incentives in the form of higher free sale quota for early crushing and late crushing during the season 1990-91 in order to enable sugar factories to produce more sugar. This has helped the factories to increase the duration of crushing and thereby boost production. The production as on 31-7-1991 aggregated to 117.75 lakh tonnes as against 108.58 lakh tonnes on the corresponding date during the previous season 1989-90.

As per the aforesaid Incentive Schemes, free sale at 75% was granted on production achieved during the period 1st October, 1990 to 15th November, 1990 and free sale at 72% was granted on production achieved during the period 1st May, 1991 to 31st July, 1991 in the current 1990-91